

**RESOLUTION NO. 12-\_\_\_\_\_**

**WHEREAS**, forty-seven years ago, many brave Alabamians marched from Selma to Montgomery to make sure that our state extended civil rights to all its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the right to vote is one of the most important of all civil rights we enjoy as Alabamians and as Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Civil Rights Act of 1965 was enacted to insure that states would not impose laws that deny their citizens the legitimate right to vote; and

**WHEREAS**, the legacy of the Civil Rights Act is that the voting rights of minority citizens are protected; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislature of the State of Alabama enacted a new voter identification law in 2011 (Act 2011-673, §1); and

**WHEREAS**, the new law will go into effect in 2014 and will deny the right to vote to those citizens who do not have a government-issued photo identification card; and

**WHEREAS**, the new voter identification law contradicts both the spirit and the purpose of the Civil Rights Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the law will have a disparately negative impact on minority voters; and

**WHEREAS**, the new law presents Alabama in a negative light; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Huntsville has long been known as a symbol of progress and inclusiveness; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama's new voter identification law does not represent the values of Huntsville or reflect positively on the State of Alabama.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, oppose Act 2011-673 and ask the legislature of the State of Alabama to repeal it so that Alabama will not take a step backward in protecting the voting rights of all its citizens.

**ADOPTED** this the 26th day of April, 2012.

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Mark Russell  
President of the City Council of the  
City of Huntsville, Alabama

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Richard Showers, District 1  
City Council of the City of  
Huntsville, Alabama

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John Olshefski, District 3  
City Council of the City of  
Huntsville, Alabama

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Bill Kling, Jr., District 4  
City Council of the City of  
Huntsville, Alabama

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Will Culver, District 5  
City Council of the City of  
Huntsville, Alabama

**APPROVED** this the 26th day of April, 2012.

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Mayor of the City of Huntsville,  
Alabama